



BIRMINGHAM POLICE DEPARTMENT **ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT**

JUNE 2020

www.police.birminghamal.gov



PUTTING PEOPLE FIRST



Randall L. Woodfin
Mayor

Patrick Smith
Chief of Police

CITY OF BIRMINGHAM

BIRMINGHAM POLICE DEPARTMENT

PUTTING PEOPLE FIRST

June 10, 2020

Dear Birmingham,

We want you to know that the Birmingham Police Department hears your collective voices and recognizes your passion for justice. We also have witnessed your strength and calls for change. These are goals we both share.

We understand that the action and inaction of officers in another state have broken public trust – not just nationwide, but here in Birmingham as well. We want you to know that we stand in solidarity with you and we appreciate the opportunity to listen.

This department has a well-documented history dating back to the civil rights movement, and we have a duty to hold our officers to a higher standard today and ensure transparency and accountability.

We want to assure you that we currently have measures in place to protect you from the injustice recently experienced. All BPD officers participate in training to address racial bias, de-escalation and communication. We also train our officers to use verbal commands and non-physical contact to achieve compliance.

Our motto is to protect, serve and, most importantly, RESPECT. We constantly pursue ways to positively engage the community.

As public servants, we ask that you hold us accountable. We also ask that you hold others accountable and help us solve the crimes that tear our community apart.

We are in a constant battle, 365 days a year, investigating violent crimes. As we advocate for justice, we ask that you help us achieve peace in our communities. Please do not be a silent witness. To remain quiet is to be complicit.

Just recently, two of our elders were killed. Sixty-two-year-old Brenda Jordan lost her life as she traveled to a store and 70-year-old Larry Pettway lost his life to a stray bullet. You can help us attain justice when innocent lives are taken.

We promise to stand against police brutality, excessive force and unfair treatment. We hope you will join us and help us achieve justice for all victims of crime.

With the utmost respect,

Patrick D. Smith
Birmingham Police Department Chief of Police



SOME OF POLICE CHIEF PATRICK SMITH'S

PROJECTS & PROGRAMS

1. Adjusted shift hours in late 2018 to meet demand for service calls
2. Started a Rehire Program for BPD Retirees
3. Updated rules and regulations to improve standards and accountability within the department
4. Has hired more than 200 new officers to meet service calls demands
5. Scheduled four police academy sessions in one calendar year
6. COMPSTAT Crime Fighting Strategy - Accountability as it relates to crime. This is a way of addressing crime in real time with the commanders of each precinct to ensure the department is following up with them and the detectives.
7. Using Predpol Technology, which is predictive policing technology that tells officers where they need to patrol to reduce crime.
8. Increased the number of training hours for officers from 12 hours to 60 hours per year.
9. Brought on a civilian public information manager and social media team to better coordinate with the news media and improve efficiency and transparency.
10. Set to launch the Birmingham Police Department app later this summer.
11. Entered a community safety partnership and patrol with the local housing authority in fall 2019.
12. Formed a new community engagement unit to expand department's focus on community. Some projects have included holiday toy drives, COVID-19 food giveaways and self-defense classes.
13. Added felony assault investigators to the Homicide Unit to strictly focus on aggravated assaults. Also added more detectives to different department units to increase coverage on investigations.



POLICE DEPARTMENT **ACCREDITATION**


The Birmingham Police Department is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA).

BPD is the only police department in Jefferson County currently accredited by CALEA and one of only 12 of 417 law enforcement agencies in Alabama.

CALEA reviews BPD every three years. BPD's most recent accreditation was granted in March 2020.

POLICE DEPARTMENT **TRAINING**

- Every BPD officer is required to go to training every two months.
- BPD training includes topics concerning de-escalation and use of force.
- Alabama Peace Officers Standards and Training Commission requires a minimum of 12 hours of training per year.
- BPD requires 60 hours of training per year per officer.
- The additional training for BPD is about \$1.5 million a year. This cost does not include the police academy, remedial training and certifications.
- Police Chief Patrick Smith, who joined the department in June 2018, deemed it necessary to increase employee training.



POLICE DEPARTMENT **DISCIPLINE & ACCOUNTABILITY**

BPD officers must, at all times, conduct themselves in a manner that does not bring disrespect to themselves, the department, or the City of Birmingham. If someone has a complaint against an officer, there is a process in place to handle the complaint.

The Birmingham Police Department takes violations of its policies, procedures and the law seriously. Officers have been terminated for various violations, while others have resigned.

In cases that have required Police Chief Patrick Smith or his deputy chiefs to hold determination hearings for certain violations, punishment without pay or terminations have been issued. In certain cases, additional training in use of force, de-escalation and anger management, as well as sensitivity training and training on searches have been required.

Smith was named Birmingham's new police chief on June 25, 2018. Since that time, 25 officers have received additional training, 12 have been sent to counseling and 39 have received suspension days.

Disciplinary actions within the Birmingham Police Department may include leave without pay, additional training, counseling, etc.

Between June 2018 and May 2020, 16 officers have been terminated and 7 officers have resigned in lieu of termination. Violations that have led to termination have included:

- Failure to document
- Conduct unbecoming
- Violation of substance abuse policy
- Ethics violation
- False reports and statements
- Excessive force
- Unauthorized force
- Neglect of duty

BPD disciplinary action taken following determination hearings between June 29, 2018 to May 26, 2020

*PWOP is Punishment Without Pay. So, PWOP 10, for example, is Punishment Without Pay for 10 working days.

Date	Rank	Charge	Discipline
6/29/2018	Officer	Arrest/DUI	PWOP 10/Counseling/Training
6/29/2018	Officer	AWOL	Letter of Counseling from the Unit
6/29/2018	Officer	Unnecessary Force	Letter of Counseling
6/29/2018	Sergeant	Improper Procedure/Disobedience to orders	PWOP 5
6/29/2018	Sergeant	Workplace Harassment/Rude & Discourteous/Profane Language	PWOP 15/Training
6/29/2018	Officer	Body Worn Camera Violation	Letter of Counseling from the Unit
6/29/2018	Officer	Failure to Notify Supervisor/Unnecessary force	PWOP 2
6/29/2018	Officer	Failure to Notify Supervisor/Profane Language	PWOP 2
6/29/2018	Officer	In-car Camera Violation	PWOP 15/Training
6/29/2018	Officer	Code of Ethics/Conduct	Resigned While Under Investigation
8/14/2018	Sergeant	False Reports/Statements	15 PWOP/Remedial Training Stromberg
8/14/2018	Officer	Workplace Violence/Rude and Discourteous	15 PWOP/Reassigned/Sensitivity Training
8/14/2018	Dispatcher	Workplace Violence	5 PWOP/Sensitivity Training
11/28/2018	Officer	Delaying apprehension/Conduct Unbecoming/Bringing discredit to the Police Dept.	Terminated
11/28/2018	Officer	Excessive Force/Rude and Discourteous	PWOP 15/Training
11/28/2018	Officer	Excessive Force/Unnecessary Force	PWOP 15/Training
11/28/2018	Officer	Domestic Arrest/Unauthorized use of City Vehicle	PWOP 10/Reassigned/Training
11/28/2018	Officer	Substance Abuse Policy Violation (Alcohol)	Terminated
11/28/2018	Officer	Domestic Arrest	Resigned

Date	Rank	Charge	Discipline
1/30/2019	Officer	Failure to obey order/Failure to Cooperate with investigation	PWOP 3
1/30/2019	Officer	Violation of Chain of Command	Training on Chain of Command
1/30/2019	Sergeant	Conduct Unbecoming	PWOP 15/Fit for Duty
1/30/2019	Officer	Neglect of Duty	PWOP 3/Training/Standardized Field Sobriety
1/30/2019	Lieutenant	Failure to Supervise	PWOP 10
1/30/2019	Sergeant	Failure to Supervise	PWOP 3
3/20/2019	Sergeant	Arrest; Conduct Unbecoming; Failure to Notify Supervisor	Terminated
3/20/2019	Officer	Excessive Force	PWOP 10 /De-escalation Training/ Taser Training
3/20/2019	Officer	Insubordination;Failure to Obey Order	PWOP 2
3/29/2019	Correctional Officer	Theft; Ethics Violation	Terminated
3/29/2019	Correctional Officer	Mishandle Property;Theft; Ethics Violation	Terminated
4/18/2019	Officer	Negligent Discharge	Retraining for Weapons Safety and Retention
4/18/2019	Officer	Extra Work Violation; False Reports and Statements; Violation of Computer Policy; Engaging in Conduct Unbecoming A Police Officer; Obedience to Laws & Ordinances; Leaving Post Without Permission	Terminated
4/18/2019	Correctional Officer	Obedience to Laws and Ordinances; Code of Ethics Violation; Engaging in Conduct Unbecoming A Police Officer;Neglect or Inattention to Duty	Letter of Counseling
4/18/2019	Correctional Officer	Neglect or Inattention to Duty	Letter of Counseling
5/24/2019	Officer	Employee arrest Conduct of Members / Conduct Unbecoming Body Worn Camera Violation Discredit to Police Dept. Commission of a Criminal Offense Failure to notify supervisor	Retraining for Weapons Safety and Retention
8/20/2019	Officer	Conduct Unbecoming	Resigned/While Under investigation
8/20/2019	Officer	Conduct Unbecoming	Terminated

Date	Rank	Charge	Discipline
8/20/2019	Officer	Employee Arrest	PWOP 10/Alcohol Counseling
8/20/2019	Officer	Conduct Unbecoming	Terminated
8/20/2019	Officer	Excessive Force	Terminated
8/20/2019	Officer	Negligent Discharge of Weapon	Letter of Counseling/Weapons Training
8/20/2019	Officer	Negligent Discharge of Weapon	Letter of Counseling/Weapons Training
8/20/2019	Officer	Unauthorized Force	PWOP 10/ Training
8/20/2019	Officer	Unauthorized Force	PWOP 5
10/4/2019	Officer	Employee Arrest/Failure to Notify Supervisor	Resigned
10/4/2019	Officer	Employee Arrest /Domestic Arrest	PWOP 4
10/4/2019	Officer	Employee Arrest/DUI	Resigned
10/4/2019	Officer	Failure to Obey Order	PWOP 3
10/4/2019	Officer	Failure to Obey Order	PWOP 3
10/4/2019	Officer	Failure to Obey Order	PWOP 3
10/4/2019	Officer	Failure to Obey Order	PWOP 3
12/9/2019	Officer	Neglect of Duty; Failure to Write Report; Failure to Notify; Interference in Investigation	Terminated
12/9/2019	Officer	Accidental Discharge	PWOP 2. Firearms retraining and requalification.
12/9/2019	Officer	Insubordination	PWOP 7.
12/9/2019	Officer	Preventable Accident	PWOP 4. Driver Training
12/9/2019	Officer	Conduct Unbecoming	Terminated
12/9/2019	Civilian	Employee Arrest; Failure to Notify	Rescheduled. No Representative.
12/9/2019	Officer	Insubordination; Failure to Obey Order	PWOP 4. Retraining on evidence handling and report writing.
4/16/2020	Officer	Excessive Force; Failure to notify supervisor; Failure to secure prisoner	15 PWOP; Use of Force and De-escalation retraining
4/16/2020	Officer	Conduct Unbecoming; Neglect of Duty	15 PWOP; Anger mgt class; 6 career counseling sessions with DC Davenport and DC Praytor to be completed prior to April 21, 2021.

Date	Rank	Charge	Discipline
4/16/2020	Officer	Conduct Unbecoming	P15 PWOP; Anger mgt class; 6 career counseling sessions with DC Davenport and DC Praytor to be completed prior to April 21, 2021.
4/16/2020	Officer	Unauthorized Force; Failure to obey written order	Terminated
4/16/2020	Officer	Excessive Force; Unauthorized Force	Terminated
4/16/2020	Officer	Violation of City Substance Abuse Policy	Terminated
5/7/2020	Officer	Insubordination	Training
5/7/2020	Officer	AWOL; False reports or statements	Command Discipline
5/7/2020	Officer	Neglect of Duty; Extra work violation; False reports or statements	Resigned in lieu of Termination
5/7/2020	Officer	Neglect of Duty	3 PWOP; Training on Searches
5/7/2020	Officer	Neglect of Duty	Letter of Counseling
5/7/2020	Sergeant	Extra work violation; Uniform violation	Resigned in Lieu of Termination
5/7/2020	Correctional Officer	Insubordination; Neglect of Duty	10 PWOP
5/7/2020	Civilian	Employee Arrest; Failure to Notify	5 PWOP
5/7/2020	Officer	Vehicle Accident	3 PWOP
5/7/2020	Captain	Disobey order; Rude and Discourteous	4 PWOP
5/7/2020	Sergeant	Hostile Work Environment; Workplace harassment	Sensitivity Training
5/26/2020	Officer	Conduct Unbecoming, Domestic Incident, Failure to Notify, Firearms discharge	Terminated
5/26/2020	Officer	Conduct Unbecoming, Failure to Notify, Firearms Discharge, Commission of a criminal act(employee arrest), AWOL, Violation of NCIC policy	Terminated

WHAT BPD IS DOING NOW:

THE 8 CAN'T WAIT MOVEMENT

Many contacted the City of Birmingham in June 2020 concerning the national Eight Can't Wait campaign, which identifies practices and policies that may potentially eliminate police-involved injuries and death.

The Birmingham Police Department already had many of these in place.

- BPD does not teach or authorize a chokehold or strangulation techniques.
- BPD does teach de-escalation.
- BPD does have a duty to intervene.
- BPD does not shoot at moving vehicles, unless there is a direct threat.
- BPD does have a use of force continuum.
- BPD requires comprehensive reporting.
- BPD does include implicit bias training.
- BPD does include procedural justice training.

1. Ban Chokeholds & Strangleholds

Chokeholds and/or strangleholds are not authorized and are not or part of BPD's training curriculum. BPD officers are authorized to use only department-approved techniques and/or equipment to bring an incident under control except under exigent circumstances as noted in BPD department policy.

2. Require De-Escalation

BPD officers use certain techniques to de-escalate a situation, including advisements, warnings, verbal persuasion, and tactical repositioning. BPD officers receive de-escalation training to enhance officer safety, enhance/create partnerships with the community and public at large, generate voluntary compliance when applicable, and lessen on-the-job and personal stressors.



3. Require Warning Before Shooting

Whenever possible and when such delay will not compromise the safety of the officer or result in the destruction of evidence, escape of a suspect, or commission of a crime, an officer will allow an individual time and opportunity to submit to verbal commands before force is used.

4. Requires Exhaust All Alternatives Before Shooting

BPD supports the practice of “progressive application of force within the response to resistance continuum.” Simply put, this means BPD uses the appropriate response during the assessment of risks in a confrontation. Each officer/citizen confrontation should flow in a logical and legal sequence of cause and effect in an effort to de-escalate the situation without using force.

5. Duty To Intervene

There is no specific language in BPD policies that reads, “duty to intervene.” However, members of the department must also remember that they are representative of the law. Members are charged with upholding this vow. Also, the Oath of Office taken by every BPD officer reflects the fact that an officer will report all violations that they encounter.

6. Ban Shooting At Moving Vehicles

An officer may not discharge a weapon at a moving or fleeing vehicle unless the officer reasonably believes that the officer or some other person is in immediate danger of death or serious bodily injury.

7. Require Use Of Force Continuum

BPD officers are only authorized to use a level of force necessary to effect an arrest. Those levels, which can be found in department policy, include:

- Level One - Officer presence
- Level Two - Verbal direction / communication
- Level Three - Physical control
- Level Four - Intermediate weapons
- Level Five - Incapacitating control
- Level Six - Lethal force

8. Require Comprehensive Reporting

A “Response to Resistance Information and Statement” report will be used to assist in identifying training and equipment needs. The forms also provide the immediate documentation of the force used so that, should a complaint be filed, pertinent facts will be readily available. The Response to Resistance Information and Statement Report will be completed by the involved officer’s immediate supervisor.

FUNDING FOR BPD IS IMPORTANT TO HELP SERVE CITIZENS

(REPRINTED FROM THE BIRMINGHAM TIMES)

By Barnett Wright

The Birmingham Times

Defunding the police department is a not good idea and could cost lives, said Birmingham Police Department (BPD) Chief Patrick D. Smith. Instead, police departments need to be “re-funded” to provide improved training that will enable officers to better serve citizens, he said.

“What I mean by [re-funded] is to make sure there is an allocation within the police department ... to ensure that police officers are trained in de-escalation, [as well as to recognize] implicit bias [and] deal with people in sensitive matters,” Smith said.

Some activists are calling for the defunding of police departments, so public money earmarked for the police can be redirected to other areas in the community. The idea has gained traction nationally after George Floyd, an African American man, was killed by police in Minneapolis, Minnesota, two weeks ago.

On Tuesday, June 9, 2020, several speakers asked the Birmingham City Council to redirect funds from the BPD’s \$92 million budget to other social services.

“That idea may cause other people to lose their lives as we experiment with this notion of defunding the police department,” Smith said. “[It’s better to] re-fund your police department in critical areas to make sure they are meeting the sensitivity goals and providing the high-quality services that citizens would like to see.”

The civil unrest that started in Minnesota spread to cities across the U.S., including Birmingham, where 24 people were arrested, 14 businesses were burglarized, and 12 businesses sustained significant damage after a night of unrest.

“I understand everything the community is going through. I understand the long-term displeasure of a number of things in society as a whole,” Smith said. “What I personally don’t like is the destruction of our own community, the destruction of businesses. ... Many businesses that exist in our society [belong to] small-business owners who’ve had just as much pain and displeasure as many of us.”

Smith said he has heard from protest groups questioning some of the department’s policies. One group, for



example, wants a “ban” on chokeholds.

“[The BPD] already has a ban on chokeholds and strangulation,” Smith said. “Officers who use it will receive extensive days off and will be retrained; ... this is not something we use in our toolbox.”

Another demand centered around “comprehensive reporting” every time there is a police shooting. That’s also already in place, said Smith, who oversees a department of about 900 officers.

“In fact, every time we have significant use of force, such as an officer-involved shooting, it’s handled outside of the department by the [Alabama Law Enforcement Agency (ALEA)], which turns it over to the district attorney for review. ... Major investigations are handled outside [the police department].”

Accountability is all a key component of the department’s standards, Smith said.

“Since I’ve been here (in 2018) as chief there have been a total of 23 officers who have been let go from the department,” he said. “Seven of them resigned under investigation before they were terminated and another 16 were terminated. So that’s accountability for what you do in community and setting the standard for the police department and letting everyone know what the expectation is.”

According to BPD, some of the infractions have included excessive force; unauthorized force; discharge of firearm; several on unbecoming conduct, substance abuse, theft

and ethics violations.

The unrest in Birmingham comes with crime down in nearly all categories, including rape, robbery, and aggravated assaults, according to Smith, who explained that violent crime has decreased 30.4 percent.

"There are a number of things working in our public safety plan for the city of Birmingham, but there is still a lot more to be done," he said.

The number of homicides this year (43) are nearly even with where the city was last year at this time (45), according to officials.

"Homicides in this city are always a challenge," Smith said. "A lot of people think a handgun is their first line of defense to de-escalate a circumstance. ... That should not be the case."

Over the past two years, nearly 5,000 handguns have been taken off of Birmingham's streets—though murder continues to be a problem, said Smith, who was named BPD chief in June 2018.

"We have to come up with various ways to wisely disarm some of the people in the community who should not be in possession of handguns. When I was hired, we were 140 officers below where we should have been, and crime was very high in a number of areas. Over time, we have closed that gap. We have been able to hire up to the numbers that we need, and we have been trying to hire more so we can [further] reduce crime."

A lot of the positive being done by the BPD is being overshadowed, Smith said.

"This the same police department that did the food giveaway [for families in need during coronavirus], did the toy drive [during Christmas], raised money for

[Children's of Alabama]. This is the same police department for which more than 30 different medals of honor for actions of bravery and heroism within the community were awarded last year."

Currently, many police officers are being seen through prism of Floyd's death in Minnesota.

"Several officers in our department were very disturbed by what they saw," Smith said of the video showing Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin holding Floyd on the ground by pressing his knee into the man's neck for 8 minutes and 46 seconds, ignoring Floyd's dying pleas of "I can't breathe." Chauvin has been arrested and charged with second-degree murder in the killing of Floyd; three other officers on the scene where Floyd was killed have also been arrested and charged with various offences.

"I think it's important for us to recognize that [the incident in Minnesota is not a reflection of] every individual and all of law enforcement," Smith added. "One incident that occurred in Minnesota [more than a thousand miles away] can simply erase all the hard work we've done, all the work we've done in the community, every effort we've made in the community. ... It was like a big eraser came and took it all away—all the good will, all the good efforts, all the good work of the men and women of the BPD."



CITIZENS

HOW TO FILE A COMPLAINT

A Police Officer's Role in the Community

BPD officers must, at all times, conduct themselves in a manner that does not bring disrespect to themselves, the department, or the City of Birmingham. If someone has a complaint against an officer, there is a process in place to handle the complaint.

STEPS TO FILE A COMPLAINT

Step 1: To file a complaint against an employee, contact the department's Internal Affairs Division or a BPD police precinct. Contact information is on the next page.

Step 2: Additionally, you may file a complaint, in person, at a police precinct or with Internal Affairs.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER YOU FILE A COMPLAINT?

Step 1: The police department will investigate your complaint.

Step 2: At the conclusion of the investigation, the complainant will receive the findings via mail. Compliant investigations can take several weeks to complete.

WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU ARE NOT SATISFIED WITH THE OUTCOME OF YOUR COMPLAINT?

If you are not satisfied with the outcome of your complaint, you may call the commanding officer with the Internal Affairs Division at (205) 254-1742.

EXAMPLE COMPLAINT FORM

Complaint Form

Please Print All Information

Your Name: _____

Your Address: _____

Your Telephone # Day _____ Evening _____

- **Details of Complaint**

Date _____ Time: _____

Location: _____

- **Police Personnel involved (If Known):**

Name: _____ Badge or Car #: _____

Name: _____ Badge or Car #: _____

- **Describe Incident:**

North Precinct

2600 31st Avenue North
Birmingham, Alabama 35207
(205) 254-2860

South Precinct

1320 19th Street South
Birmingham, Alabama 35205
(205) 254-2793

Internal Affairs

1710 1st Avenue North
Birmingham, AL 35203
(205) 254-1742

East Precinct

600 Red Lane Road
Birmingham, Alabama 35206
(205) 254-2684

West Precinct

2236 47th Street Ensley
Birmingham, AL 35208
(205) 254-2682

BIRMINGHAM POLICE DEPARTMENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

BPD works hand-in-hand with mental health professionals and chaplains to ensure the needs of community members are met. A Community Service Officer is assigned to each precinct. They are civilian social workers who are called to assist police officers whenever their services are needed. BPD employs one sworn officer who serves the department as a chaplain and liaison between the community and faith-based organizations. Additionally, multiple volunteer chaplains from the community work with BPD regularly to provide support and/or counseling services during traumatic incidents.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

WITH THE BIRMINGHAM POLICE DEPARTMENT

To join the Birmingham Police Academy, you must be at least 19 years old to apply. The academy is 20 weeks.

1. Visit www.jobsquest.org (Fill out the application for Police Officer/Deputy Sheriff). If you have a college degree, you must upload your transcript to the site. If you do not have a college degree, you must take an aptitude test known as the Basic Abilities Test (BAT). BATs are given at two-year colleges. Once you pass BAT, you must upload your scores into Jefferson County's personnel board system. (If you do not have a college degree, you **MUST** have a high school diploma or GED. You also **MUST** also take the BAT exam.)
2. While on the personnel site, pick the municipality for which you wish to work. In this case, it would be Birmingham. (Once BPD receives this notification from the JeffCo Personnel Department, they will send you an application. They will also send a waiver for BPD to do a background check.)
3. Those who pass the background check will be invited to take a pre-employment physical abilities screening, which is administered by BPD.
4. The applicant will have a pre-screening interview/application review.
5. The applicant will undergo a thorough background investigation.
6. The applicant will have a polygraph examination.
7. The applicant will undergo a psychological screening.
8. The applicant will have a medical examination.

For more information, call 205-254-1712.

BPD APP COMING SUMMER 2020

In another effort to remain transparent and stay connected with the public, BPD will launch an app in the summer of 2020. This technology will be a gamechanger for citizens as they will be able to look at current crime stats, access BPD social media feeds, file complaints with Internal Affairs, gain contact information to email BPD command staff, submit tips to CrimeStoppers, learn how to work for BPD, see Amber Alerts, check out wanted notices and more.

Headquarters:

1710 – First Ave. North

Main number:

205-254-1701 or 1765

Jail:

205-254-6369

Website:

www.police.birminghamal.gov

BPD's Social Media Platforms

 @bhampolice

 @bhampolice
@birminghamcoldcaseunit

 @bhampolice

STAY CONNECTED

WITH THE BIRMINGHAM POLICE DEPARTMENT



HOW TO JOIN THE COMMUNITY POLICE ACADEMY

This 12-week program teaches citizens what BPD recruits experience in the police academy and how BPD operates. This academy only meets on Tuesday nights from 6 to 8 p.m. Due to COVID-19, a date for the next session is pending. For more information, please call Community Outreach and Public Education Division (COPE) at 205-933-4175 or send emails to bpdcommunityengagement@birminghamal.gov.

BPD COMMUNITY OUTREACH SERVICES

The Community Outreach and Public Education (COPE) unit has multiple programs in place to ensure that BPD is actively engaged in the community in a positive way. For more information on the unit and programs on this page, call 205-933-4175 or send emails to bpdcommunityengagement@birminghamal.gov.

- Want to volunteer for different BPD events and services? Sign up for the Volunteers in Police Services, which is also known as VIPS.
- The Explorers Program provides youth with an inside look at police operations.
- Police athletic teams sponsor youth, between the ages of 6 to 18, in various sports programs, including basketball, baseball, softball and volleyball. This effort allows officers to help youth build character.
- The Youth Advisory Council allows police officers to engage in open dialogue with youth between the ages of 14 to 21.

BIRMINGHAM POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

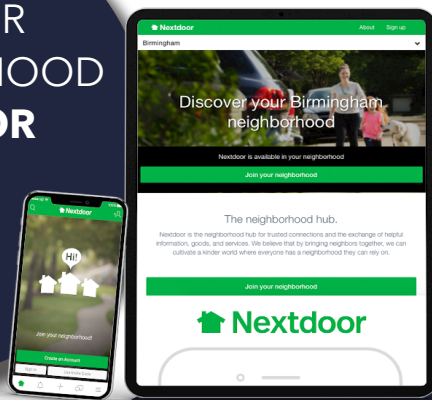


CONNECT WITH YOUR LOCAL PRECINCT

A crime prevention officer is available at each precinct. They can offer security assessments for residents and businesses, as well as personal safety and crime prevention programs.

Visit your precinct today to connect with your crime prevention officer, learn how to start or join a Block Watch and learn how to sign up for Next Door via your cell phone or computer.

FIND YOUR
NEIGHBORHOOD
NEXTDOOR



BIRMINGHAM POLICE DEPARTMENT **LOCAL PRECINCTS:**

North Precinct:

2600 31st Ave N.

Precinct phone number:
205-254-2860

Community Police Relations Assistant

Dwayne Thompson:
205-254-6441 or 205-410-0232

Email address:
dwayne.thompson@birminghamal.gov

South Precinct:

1320 19th St. South

Precinct phone number:
205-254-2793

Crime Prevention Specialist

DeVoris Ragland-Pierce:
205-933-4146

Email address:
devoris.ragland@birminghamal.gov

East Precinct:

600 Red Lane Road

Precinct phone number:
205-254-2685 or 205-254-2684

Crime Prevention Officer

Jessica Clark Burton:
205-254-6828 or 205-297-8494

Email address:
jessica.burton@birminghamal.gov

West Precinct:

2236 47th Street, Ensley

Precinct phone number:
205-254-2683

Crime Prevention Officer

Felicia Mearon:
205-297-8353

Email address:
felicia.mearon@birminghamal.gov

BIRMINGHAM POLICE DEPARTMENT HONORS & AWARDS



As of June 2020, crime in Birmingham is significantly lower than it was this time a year ago. Violent crime is down 30 percent. Property crime is down 27 percent.

How we got here is largely due to the hard work of the Birmingham police officers who put their lives on the lines to serve and protect every day. They are on the frontlines, working to renew the City of Birmingham's commitment to having safe, secure and sustainable communities. They are our protectors, mentors and heroes.

But with the job comes challenges. Since January 2019, six Birmingham officers have been shot in the line of duty. On Jan. 13, 2019, Sgt. Wytasha Carter and Officer Lucas Allums were shot while investigating car break-ins in downtown Birmingham. Sgt. Carter died from his injuries.

It takes a special person to make a difference in the community, which is why several local and national organizations have recognized BPD officers for their bravery and dedication through the years. This report highlights just some of the honorees.

HEROES WORK HERE



OFFICER
LUCAS
ALLUMS



SERGEANT
WYTASHA
CARTER

MEDAL OF HEROISM



OFFICER JEFFREY WISE

Officer Wise confronted an armed suspect and engaged in a gun battle, exposing himself to danger.



OFFICER MICHAELA HOOD

These officers forced their way into a burning house to rescue an elderly female who was unable to escape.

OFFICER JUSTIN FEAGGINS



PRESERVATION OF LIFE MEDAL



OFFICER JOSEPH FULMER

OFFICER TEVON IRBY



These officers prevented an armed suicidal person from fatally injuring herself or others.



OFFICER PATRICK MOSLEY

OFFICER BENJAMIN POE



LIFE SAVING MEDAL

Officers rendered aid to a critically injured person, saving his life.



OFFICER BRITTANY HAYES



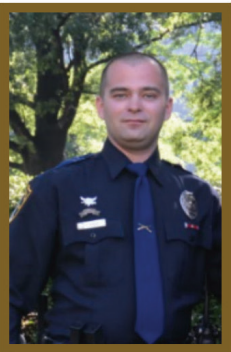
OFFICER REGINALD REYNOLDS



OFFICER NICHOLAS LEMOINE



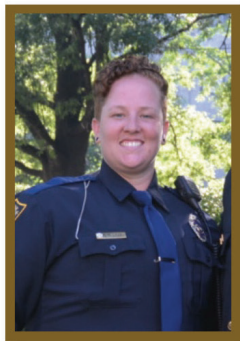
OFFICER KENT ANDERSON



OFFICER BRADLEY COLE



OFFICER DEMARCUS BLANDING



OFFICER ALYSSA BROWN

MERITORIOUS UNIT CITATION



SERGEANT RICHARD HALUSKA
OFFICER KELVIN KING
OFFICER ROBERT CONNER
OFFICER VERONICA BANKS
OFFICER BRI'YONNA YOUNG
OFFICER JARED NORSWORTHY
OFFICER DEMARCUS BLANDING
OFFICER KENNETH IVORY
OFFICER DAVID EUBANKS
OFFICER AARON JOHNSON
OFFICER ALYSSA BROWN
OFFICER BENJAMIN ROBERTS

SERGEANT VANESSA JACKSON
OFFICER NICHOLAS CLARK
OFFICER VINCENT RANDELSON
OFFICER O'BRIEN BROWN
OFFICER RODRIQUES HILL
OFFICER ZACHARY OSBORNE
OFFICER RYAN FOSTER
OFFICER DANIEL MAULDIN
OFFICER CHRISTOPHER MARTIN
OFFICER MICHAEL DUNN
OFFICER JON RODRIQUEZ

Officers and Sergeants from the South Precinct responded to an active shooter at a local hospital, safeguarding the patients, staff and victims.

